



July 16, 2021

The Honorable Michael S. Regan  
Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20460

**RE: Support for (b) (6) as EPA Agriculture Advisor**

Dear Administrator Regan:

I have had the privilege of working with (b) (6) “(b) (6) (b) (6)” on water and environmental issues for over a decade since I was a Member of the Florida Legislature. I know him to be a talented legal and policy practitioner who understands complex issues. He has demonstrated the ability to achieve positive results within challenging political environments.

(b) (6) has handled significant federal litigation and regulatory actions touching on many of the areas addressed by the EPA and can be counted on to provide quality guidance while working with lawmakers, regulators and stakeholders to reach beneficial solutions. In Florida, he has handled legal and policy work involving the development of numeric nutrient criteria for the state, endangered species and critical habitat, NEPA, and the Clean Air and Clean Water Acts. Additionally, he represented several local governments and stakeholders in the ongoing development of the Waters of the United States (WOTUS) rules, worked for years on "forever chemicals" and their impacts on public health, and has played a key role in climate change and resiliency programs and policies throughout the state.

(b) (6)  
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issues involving the agricultural community. As (b) (6)  
(b) (6), remains involved in larger  
scale watershed discussions through national watershed management and stormwater/wastewater groups, and  
(b) (6)

I strongly recommend (b) (6) to serve as the EPA’s Agriculture Advisor. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 225-9889.

Sincerely,

Darren Soto  
Member of Congress